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is our business.

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October 10, 2013

By Hand Delivery

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

ACCEPTED/FILED

OCT 18 2013

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

**Re: WC Docket No. 10-90, WC Docket No. 11-42
2013 ETC Annual Report of Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc.
Study Area Code 270435**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc. "Northeast Louisiana", JSI files the attached confidential and redacted versions of the FCC Form 481 ETC annual reporting information pursuant to sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules.¹ Northeast Louisiana seeks confidential treatment under Protective Order for section 54.313(f)(2) financial information.² The redacted version is also being filed this date via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System.

Please direct any questions regarding the filing to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

John Kuykendall
JSI Vice President
301-459-7590
jkuykendall@jsitel.com

cc: Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division (two copies, confidential)

No. of Copies rec'd 0+3
List ABOVE

¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

² *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 *et al.*, Protective Order, DA 12-1857 rel. Nov. 16, 2012 (Protective Order). 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2).

Echelon Building II, Suite 200
9430 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759
phone: 512-338-0473, fax: 512-346-0822

Eagandale Corporate Center, Suite 310
1380 Corporate Center Curve, Eagan, MN 55121
phone: 651-452-2660, fax: 651-452-1909

6849 Peachtree Dunwoody Road
Bldg. B-3, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30328
phone: 770-569-2105, fax: 770-410-1608

547 South Oakview Lane
Bountiful, UT 84010
phone: 801-294-4576, fax: 801-294-512

**(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

270435

<010> Study Area Code

<015> Study Area Name

<020> Program Year

<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data

<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>

<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>

<110> Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC?

If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing §54.202(a) "5 year plan" filed with the FCC?

If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service.

<112> Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.

Name of Attached Document (.pdf)

Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to § 54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.

<113> Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets

<114> Report how much universal service (USF) support was received

<115> How (USF) was used to improve service quality

<116> How (USF) was used to improve service coverage

<117> How (USF) was used to improve service capacity

<118> Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.

July 2013

307 j11masay@ie-let.com

<03> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> j.lindsay@ne-tel.com

See attached worksheet --

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date
<701>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge
<702>	

[illegible]

(710) Broadband Price Offerings
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 270435
 <015> Study Area Name NORTHEAST LOUISIANA
 <020> Program Year 2014
 <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data Julia Lindsey
 <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 318-874-7011
 <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> jlindsey@ne-tele.com

<a1>	<a2>	<b1>	<b2>	<c>	<d1>	<d2>	<d3>	<d4>
State	Exchange (ILEC)	Residential Rate	State Regulated Fees	Total Rate and Fees	Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)	Broadband Service - Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allowance (GB)	Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached {select}

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

~~See attached worksheet --~~

July 2013

030> ilindsavone-tel.com

**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	270435
<015>	Study Area Name	NORTHEAST LOUISIANA
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Julia Lindsay
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	318-874-7011
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	j Lindsay@ne-tel.com

☐

Please check this box to confirm no terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)

☐

Please check this box to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)

(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0886/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	270435
<015>	Study Area Name	NORTHEAST LOUISIANA
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Julia Lindsey
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	318-874-7011
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jlindsay@ne-tel.com

<1210>	Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans	2704351a1210
<1220>	Link to Public Website	HTTP http://ne-tel.com/telephone/lifeline.php

Name of attached document (.pdf)

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

<1221>	Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1222>	Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1223>	Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation
Data Collection Form
Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	270435
<015>	Study Area Name	NORTHEAST LOUISIANA
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Julia Lindsey
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	318-874-7011
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jlindsey@ne-tel.com

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e) the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting		
<2010>	2nd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1))	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2011>	3rd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(2))	<input type="checkbox"/>
Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification (47 CFR § 54.312(a))		
<2012>	2013 Frozen Support Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2013>	2014 Frozen Support Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2014>	2015 Frozen Support Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2015>	2016 and future Frozen Support Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support (47 CFR § 54.313(d))		
<2016>	Certification Support Used to Build Broadband	<input type="checkbox"/>
Connect America Phase II Reporting (47 CFR § 54.313(e))		
<2017>	3rd year Broadband Service Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2018>	5th year Broadband Service Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2019>	Interim Progress Certification	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2020>	Please check the box to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 2021, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<2021>	Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

(3000) Rate of Return Carrier Additional Documentation
Data Collection Form

<010>	Study Area Code	270435
<015>	Study Area Name	NORTHEAST LOUISIANA
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Julia Lindsey
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	318-874-7011
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	j.lindsey@ne-tel.com

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Progress Report on 5 Year Plan

	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
(3010) Milestone Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)) Please check this box to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3012, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (f)(1)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3011) Community Anchor Institutions (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(iii)) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)) If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires: Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers) PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Yes/No) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Yes/No)
(3012) If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3013) If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3014) If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains: Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3015) Management letter issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit.		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3016) If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains: Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers, Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3017) Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3018) PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<input type="checkbox"/>
(3019) Attach the worksheet listing required information		<input type="checkbox"/>

Certification - Reporting Carrier Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010>	Study Area Code	270435
<015>	Study Area Name	NORTHEAST LOUISIANA
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Julia Lindsay
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	318-874-7011
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jlindsay@ne-tel.com

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	Date
Signature of Authorized Officer:	
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	270435
<015> Study Area Name	NORTHEAST LOUISIANA
<020> Program Year	2014
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Julia Lindsay
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	318-874-7011
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	jlindsay@ne-tel.com

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) <u>Dee Dee Longenecker</u> is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent:	Dee Dee Longenecker
Name of Reporting Carrier:	NORTHEAST LOUISIANA
Signature of Authorized Officer:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 10/10/2013
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	Mike George
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	President
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	318-874-7011
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	270435 Filing Due Date for this form: 10/15/2013
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	NORTHEAST LOUISIANA
Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	Dee Dee Longenecker
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 10/10/2013
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	Dee Dee Longenecker
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	Manager - Regulatory Affairs, JSI
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	512-338-0473
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	270435 Filing Due Date for this form: 10/15/2013
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Attachments

Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc.

Study Area Code 270435

**Response to Lines 500-510 - Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules
Compliance**

In establishing this certification in its *2005 ETC Order*,¹ the FCC found that an ETC must make “a specific commitment to objective measures to protect consumers.”² The FCC found that for wireless ETCs, compliance with CTIA’s Consumer Code for Wireless Service would satisfy this requirement and that the sufficiency of other commitments would be considered on a case-by-case basis. In this context, the FCC stated, “to the extent a wireline or wireless ETC applicant is subject to consumer protection obligations under state law, compliance with such laws may meet our requirement.”³

Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc. (“Company”) hereby certifies that it is complying with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules under state and federal law. These provisions include, but are not limited to, the following: 1) Customer Service Regulations for Telecommunications Service in LPSC Docket No. U-24856;³ 2) “Slamming” requirements in Docket No. U-25754;⁴ 3) Docket No. U-24050 containing rules and regulations concerning Telecommunications Service Provider billing;⁵ 4) Truth-in-Billing Rules

¹ *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, FCC 05-46 (rel. Mar. 17, 2005) (“*2005 ETC Order*”).

² *Id.* at para. 28.

³ *Louisiana Public Service Commission General Order*, Docket No. U-24856 - In re: Customer Service Regulations for Telecommunications Service Providers. (Decided at the Business and Executive Session held November 2, 2000)

⁴ *Louisiana Public Service Commission General Order*, Docket No. U-25754 - In re: Possible Amendments to the June 5, 1998 General Order (“Slamming”). (Decided at Business and Executive Session held April 24, 2002)

⁵ *Louisiana Public Service Commission General Order*, Docket No. U-24050 -In re: Rules and regulations concerning Telecommunications Service Provider (“TSP”) billing. (Decided at Business and Executive Session held June 21, 2000)

contained at 47 CFR § 64.2401; and, 5) compliance with Federal CPNI rules, Red Flag Rules and other applicable federal and state requirements governing the protection of customers' privacy.

Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc.

Study Area Code: 270435

Response to Lines 600-610 - Ability to Function in Emergency Situations

Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc. ("Company") hereby certifies that it is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 47, Part 54, Subpart C, §54.202(a)(2)¹. The Company's network is designed to remain functional in emergency situations without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations as required by Section 54.202(a)(2). The Company can change call routing translations as needed to reroute traffic around damaged facilities. Changing call routing translations also allows the Company to manage traffic spikes throughout its network, as emergency situations require.

Specifically, the Company is able to function in emergency situations in accordance with the Company's Emergency Operations Plan which include provisions for continuity of service and emergency preparedness procedures. All central offices are equipped with permanently installed standby generators containing a minimum of eight hours of battery reserve without voltage falling below the level required for proper operation of all equipment. In addition, the Company has a mobile power unit available which can be delivered and connected on short notice.

¹ Section 54.202(a)(2) requires ETCs that are designated by the Commission to "demonstrate its ability to remain functional in emergency situations, including a demonstration that it has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations."

Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc.
SAC 270435

Rates, Terms and Conditions for Lifeline Service

(Response to Form 481, Line 1210)

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE TARIFF

General

This tariff is governed, except as otherwise specified herein, by the General Exchange Tariff which is hereby made a part of this tariff. The charges quoted in this tariff are for a period of one month, payable monthly in advance, and entitle the subscriber to local exchange service to all stations bearing the designation of Bonita Central Office at the flat rates shown below.

The rates for Local Exchange Service apply to all subscribers regardless of whether the communicating devices are rented from the Telephone Company or provided by the subscriber.

Toll Blocking is available at no charge.

RATES AND THEIR APPLICATION

A.	<u>Within the Base Rate Area:</u>	<u>Monthly Line Access</u>	
	BUSINESS: ONE PARTY	\$26.13	
	RESIDENCE: ONE PARTY	\$14.00	(I)(C)
B.	<u>Outside the Base Rate Area, But Within Exchange Area:</u>		
	BUSINESS: ONE PARTY	\$26.13	
	RESIDENCE: ONE PARTY	\$14.00	(I)(C)

Issue Date: 5/8/2013
Effective: 6/1/2013
Order Number: _____

Issued By: Northeast Louisiana
Telephone Company, Inc., P. O.
Drawer 185, Collinston, La.

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE TARIFF

General

This tariff is governed, except as otherwise specified herein, by the General Exchange Tariff which is hereby made a part of this tariff. The charges quoted in this tariff are for a period of one month, payable monthly in advance, and entitle the subscriber to local exchange service to all stations bearing the designation of Collinston Central Office at the flat rates shown below.

The rates for Local Exchange Service apply to all subscribers regardless of whether the communicating devices are rented from the Telephone Company or provided by the subscriber.

Toll Blocking is available at no charge.

RATES AND THEIR APPLICATION

A.	<u>Within the Base Rate Area:</u>	<u>Monthly Line Access</u>	
	BUSINESS: ONE PARTY		\$26.13
	RESIDENCE: ONE PARTY		\$14.00 (I)(C)
	Outside the Base Rate Area,		
	<u>But Within Exchange Area:</u>		
	BUSINESS: ONE PARTY		\$26.13
	RESIDENCE: ONE PARTY		\$14.00 (I)(C)

Issue Date: 5/8/2013

Effective: 6/1/2013

Order Number: _____

Issued By: Northeast Louisiana

Telephone Company, Inc., P. O.

Drawer 185, Collinston, La.

SERVICE CONNECTION CHARGES

SERVICE CHARGES

LIFELINE AND LINK-UP PROGRAMS

Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, Inc. concurs in the Lifeline and Link-Up Programs as filed by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., where services and facilities are available, in accordance with the conditions as set forth in the FCC's order on Universal Service in CC Docket 97-157, which adopts the Federal-State Joint Board's recommendation in CC Docket 96-45, complying with the Telecommunications Act of 1996; and specific terms and conditions as prescribed by the Louisiana Public Service Commission. Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, hereby expressly reserves the right to cancel this statement of concurrence at any time when it appears that such cancellation is in the best interest of Northeast Louisiana Telephone Company, subject to the jurisdiction of the Louisiana Public Service Commission as it applies.

Issue Date: 12/17/97

Effective Date: 12/31/97

Order Number: _____

Issued By: Northeast Louisiana
Telephone Company, Inc.
P O Drawer 185, Collinston, LA

A3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

A3.31 Lifeline

A3.31.1 Description of Service

- A. The Lifeline program is designed to increase the availability of telecommunications services to low income subscribers by providing a credit to monthly recurring local service charges for qualifying residential subscribers. Basic terms and conditions are in compliance with the FCC's Order on Universal Service in CC Docket 97-157, which adopts the Federal-State Joint Board's recommendation in CC Docket 96-45, which complies with the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the FCC Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in WC Docket No. 11-42, adopted January 31, 2012. Specific terms and conditions are as prescribed by the Louisiana Public Service Commission and are as set forth in this tariff.
- B. Lifeline is supported by the federal universal service support mechanism.
- C. Federal *uniform* support of \$9.25 is available for each Lifeline service and is passed through to *an eligible customer via a monthly Lifeline credit*. The amount of credit will not exceed the charge for local service. (C)

A3.31.2 Regulations

A. General

1. One low income credit is available per household and is applicable to the primary residential connection only. Lifeline support is limited to a single subscription per household where household is defined to be any individual or group of individuals who are living together at the same address as one economic unit. For the purposes of this rule, an economic unit consists of all adult individuals contributing to and sharing in the income and expenses of a household.
2. A Lifeline customer may subscribe to any local service offering available to other residence customers.
3. Toll blocking, if elected, will be provided at no charge to the Lifeline subscriber.
4. The deposit requirement is not applicable to a Lifeline customer who subscribes to toll blocking. If a Lifeline customer removes toll blocking prior to establishing an acceptable credit history, a deposit may be required. When applicable, advance payments will not exceed the connection and local service charges for one month.
5. Lifeline service is exempt from the Installment Billing Service Fee.
6. The Federal Universal Service Charge will not be billed to Lifeline customers.
7. A Lifeline subscriber's local service will not be disconnected for non-payment of toll charges. Local service may be denied for non-payment of local charges in accordance with A2. Access to toll service may be denied for non-payment of toll charges. A Lifeline subscriber's request for reconnection of local service will not be denied if the service was previously denied for non-payment of toll charges.
8. The non-discounted federal Lifeline credit amount will be passed along to resellers ordering local service at the prescribed resale discount from this Tariff, for their eligible end users. The additional credit to the end user will be the responsibility of the reseller. Eligible carriers, as defined by the FCC, are required to establish their own Lifeline programs.

B. Eligibility

1. To be eligible for a Lifeline credit, a customer must be a current recipient of any of the following low income assistance programs.
 - a. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - b. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
 - c. Medicaid
 - d. Federal Public Housing Assistance/Section 8
 - e. Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
 - f. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
 - g. National School Lunch Program's free lunch program
2. Additionally, customers not receiving benefits under one of the preceding programs, and whose total gross annual income does not exceed 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines are eligible for Lifeline.
3. All applications for service are subject to verification with the state agency responsible for administration of the qualifying program.

A3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

A3.31 Lifeline (Cont'd)

A3.31.2 Regulations (Cont'd)

C. Certification

1. Proof of eligibility in any of the qualifying low income assistance programs or for the income based criterion should be provided to the Company at the time of application for service. The Lifeline credit will not be established until proof of eligibility has been received by the Company. If the customer requests installation prior to the Company's receipt of proof of eligibility, the requested service will be provided without the Lifeline credit. When eligibility documentation is provided subsequent to installation, the Lifeline credit will be provided on a going forward basis. Recertification is required annually.
2. It is the customer's responsibility to notify the Company when the customer is no longer participating in any of the qualifying programs or is no longer eligible based on the requirements established for the income based criterion.
3. The Company reserves the right to periodically audit its records, working in conjunction with the appropriate state agencies, for the purpose of determining continuing eligibility. Information obtained during such audit will be treated as confidential information to the extent required under State and Federal laws. The use or disclosure of information concerning enrollees will be limited to purposes directly connected with the administration of the Lifeline plan.
4. When a customer is determined to be ineligible as a result of an audit, the Company will contact the customer. If the customer cannot provide eligibility documentation, the Lifeline credit will be discontinued.
5. Resellers providing Lifeline service from this tariff are responsible for determining proof of eligibility prior to requesting the service. As set forth in 47 C.F.R. § 417(a) and (b), a reseller must provide a certification, upon request, to AT&T that it is complying with all FCC and applicable State requirements governing Lifeline/Tribal Link-Up programs, including certification and verification procedures. Resellers are required to retain the required documentation for three (3) years and be able to produce the documentation to the Commission or its Administrator to demonstrate that they are providing discounted services only to qualified low-income customers as outlined in B. preceding. Disclosure requirements described in 3., are applicable to resellers of Lifeline service.

A3.31.3 Rates and Charges

A. General

1. Lifeline is provided as a monthly credit on the eligible residential subscriber's access line bill for local service.
2. Service Charges in A4 are applicable for installing or changing Lifeline service.
3. The Secondary Service Charge in A4 is not applicable when existing service is converted intact to Lifeline service.

B. Lifeline credit passed through to the customer:

1. Federal credit

	Monthly Credit	
(a) Supplemental Security Income (SSI)	\$9.25	(T)
(b) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	9.25	(C)
(c) Medicaid	9.25	(C)
(d) Federal Public Housing Assistance/Section 8	9.25	(C)
(e) Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Plan (LIHEAP)	9.25	(C)
(f) Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	9.25	(C)
(g) National School Lunch Program's free lunch program	9.25	(C)
(h) Income at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines	9.25	(C)

A3. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

A3.31 Lifeline (Cont'd)

A3.31.4 Tribal Lifeline

A. Description of Service

Qualified residents of federally recognized tribal lands may receive up to *twenty-five* dollars (\$25.00) per month in additional federal Lifeline support for their residential service. (C)

B. Regulations

1. Tribal Lifeline support is in addition to traditional Lifeline support.
2. All Lifeline regulations are applicable to Tribal Lifeline.

C. Eligibility

To qualify, in addition to meeting the tribal land residency requirement, the customer may be a current recipient of any of the programs identified for Lifeline, or may be a recipient of one of the following federal programs:

1. BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) General Assistance
2. Tribally administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
3. Head Start (income eligible)
4. Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

D. Rates and Charges

1. General

a. (DELETED)

- b. The Tribal Lifeline credit is in addition to the federal Lifeline credit preceding. (D)

A3.32 (DELETED)

REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

NORTHEAST LOUISIANA TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. (SAC 270435)

ATTACHMENT - LINE 3017

ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY